

# CHURCHYARDS FOR LICHENS

## A Perfect Sanctuary    Enjoy and Protect Them

A church and its graveyard provide undisturbed surfaces on which lichens can grow, especially on stone. Remarkably, over one third of the 2000 species of lichens that occur in Britain and Ireland are found in churchyards!



Limestone headstones with yellow-orange crustose lichens



St Afan's Church, Llanafan-fawr, Powys

© R Woods



*Psilolechia lucida* picks out the letters on a sandstone headstone



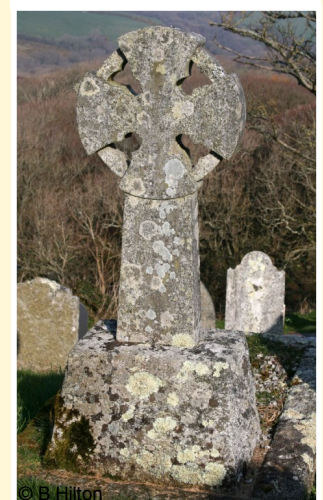
Trees and seats often have leafy lichens



Chests provide different niches for lichens including the horizontal top



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Granite Celtic cross with leafy and crustose lichens

For further information see the BLS website [www.britishtichensociety.org.uk](http://www.britishtichensociety.org.uk) or write to the BLS, c/o Dept of Botany, Natural History Museum, Cromwell Rd, London SW7 5BD

